

Remarks

Section 1.312 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) states that:

"No amendment may be made as a matter of right in an application after the mailing of the Notice of Allowance. Any amendment filed pursuant to this section must be filed before or with the payment of the issue fee, and may be entered on the recommendation of the primary examiner, approved by the Commissioner, without withdrawing the application from issue."

The Applicant notes that the Notice of Allowability indicates that claims 1, 3-5 and 14-117 are allowed. However, Applicant wishes to point out to the Examiner that a Terminal Disclaimer was filed to overcome the double patenting objection to claims 1, 3-5, 14-17, 24-26 and 32-34 raised in the Office Action dated December 5, 2003. Accordingly, Applicant wishes to clarify that claims 1, 3-5, 14-17, 24-26 and 32-34 are presently allowed.

In the Notice of Allowability, the Examiner requested corrected drawings. In response, Applicant has enclosed a replacement set of formal drawings in Appendix A of the present submission. Applicant submits that the enclosed drawings are a formal version of the drawings approved by the Examiner in the Office Action dated December 5, 2003. The drawings have been identified in accordance with 37 CFR 1.84(c) and labeled as replacement sheets in accordance with 37 CFR 1.121(d).

The Applicant wishes to submit the above amendment for consideration under this section. A clean set of claims incorporating the amendments made in the Amendment dated April 3, 2003, and as allowed by the Examiner in the Notice of Allowability dated June 4, 2004, has been provided above. A re-ordering of the claims has been affected to consolidate claim groups. No new claims have been added, and no claims have been removed. To illustrate the re-ordering, the following chart providing a correlation between the claims presented in the Amendment dated April 3, 2003 and the presently renumbered claims is provided.

| Original Claim # | Renumbered Claim # | Original Claim # | Renumbered Claim # | Original Claim # | Renumbered Claim # |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | 1 | 24 | 9 | 47 | (cancelled) |
| 2 | (cancelled) | 25 | 10 | 48 | (cancelled) |
| 3 | 2 | 26 | 11 | 49 | (cancelled) |
| 4 | 3 | 27 | (cancelled) | 50 | (cancelled) |
| 5 | 4 | 28 | (cancelled) | 51 | (cancelled) |
| 6 | (cancelled) | 29 | (cancelled) | 52 | (cancelled) |
| 7 | (cancelled) | 30 | (cancelled) | 53 | (cancelled) |
| 8 | (cancelled) | 31 | (cancelled) | 54 | (cancelled) |
| 9 | (cancelled) | 32 | 12 | 55 | (cancelled) |
| 10 | (cancelled) | 33 | 13 | 56 | (cancelled) |
| 11 | (cancelled) | 34 | 14 | 57 | (cancelled) |
| 12 | (cancelled) | 35 | (cancelled) | 58 | (cancelled) |
| 13 | (cancelled) | 36 | (cancelled) | 59 | (cancelled) |
| 14 | 5 | 37 | (cancelled) | 60 | (cancelled) |
| 15 | 6 | 38 | (cancelled) | 61 | (cancelled) |
| 16 | 7 | 39 | (cancelled) | 62 | (cancelled) |
| 17 | 8 | 40 | (cancelled) | 63 | (cancelled) |
| 18 | (cancelled) | 41 | (cancelled) | 64 | (cancelled) |
| 19 | (cancelled) | 42 | (cancelled) | 65 | (cancelled) |
| 20 | (cancelled) | 43 | (cancelled) | 66 | (cancelled) |
| 21 | (cancelled) | 44 | (cancelled) | 67 | (cancelled) |
| 22 | (cancelled) | 45 | (cancelled) | | |
| 23 | (cancelled) | 46 | (cancelled) | | |

Applicant submits that no new matter has been added, and that no amendments to the claims have been made, other than the renumbering of claims and their dependencies.

Applicant respectfully requests that entry of the above amendments be allowed.
If the Examiner finds some of the amendments acceptable and some objectionable, the
Examiner is requested to enter the Amendment in Part, in accordance with MPEP §714.16(e).

Respectfully submitted,

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Encl.

1. APPENDIX A - Figures 1-36 (14 pages)